

## Message Text

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APPROVED BY IO:TERRE BROWN  
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UNCLAS STATE 017286

FOL RPT PRETORIA 0391 SENT ACTION SECSTATE & USUN NEW YORK  
INFO BONN, CAPE TOWN, DAR ES SALAAM, LONDON, LUSAKA, MAPUTO,  
OTTAWA & PARIS DTD 20 JAN 78

QUOTE: VUNCLAS PRETORIA 0391

CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: NA. PINT, PEDEV  
SUBJ: NAMIBIA: PRESS REPORT ON NEW FIVE-POWER  
APPROACH TO SOUTH AFRICA ON MEETING DATES

THE FOLLOWING ARTICLE BY DONALD ANDREW APPEARED IN THE  
JANUARY 20 PRETORIA NEWS: QUOTE A NEW DATE FOR NEW  
YORK " PROXIMITY" TALKS ON SWA/NAMIBIA IS EXPECTED TO BE  
OFFERED TO SOUTH AFRICA WITHIN A FEW DAYS. AND, IN AN  
ALL-OUT BID TO CLINCH UN-APPROVED INDEPENDENCE FOR THE  
TERRITORY AND LURE THE NOW RELUCTANT SOUTH AFRICAN  
FOREIGN MINISTER, MR. PIK BOTHA, TO THE UNITED STATES,  
THE WEST IS CONSIDERING UPGRADING THE NEGOTIATIONS TO  
A FOREIGN MINISTER SUMMIT- PROBABLY FOR BETWEEN  
FEBRUARY 6 AND 17. INFORMED DIPLOMATIC SOURCES SAY  
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THESE DEVELOPMENTS ARE A DEMONSTRATION OF THE SERIOUS  
DESIRE BY THE FIVE WESTERN MEMBERS OF THE SECURITY  
COUNCIL TO SECURE INTERNATIONAL RECOGNITION FOR AN  
INDEPENDENT SWA/NAMIBIA. DEMANDS NY MR. BOTHA FOR  
THE WEST TO PRESENT THEIR PROPOSALS WILL BE MET AS  
SOON AS THESE LATEST SETTLEMENT PLANS, NOW IN DRAFT  
FORM, HAVE BEEN APPROVED BY THE FIVE WESTERN GOVERNMENTS.

BUT MR. BOTHA WANT RECEIVE THEM TILL THE NEW DATE  
HAS BEEN AGREED ON, BECAUSE THE FIVE FIRMLY BELIEVE  
" PROXIMITY" TALKS ARE THE BEST WAY TO RESOLVE  
DIFFERENCES BETWEEN SOUTH AFRICA AND SWAPO. THE  
PERIOD BETWEEN MR. BOTHA'S ACCEPTANCE OF THE INVITATION  
AND HIS LEAVING FOR NEW YORK WOULD ALLOW HIM TO  
CONFER WITH THE PRIME MINISTER. THE FRENCH AMBASSADOR,  
MR. JACQUES SCHRICKE, SAID YESTERDAY" PROXIMITY" TALKS  
WERE PERHAPS BETTER DESCRIBED AS " PARALLEL" TALKS,  
WITH THE FIVE NEGOTIATING SEPARATELY WITH SOUTH AFRICA  
AND SWAPO IN THE SAME PLACE AT THE SAME TIME. BUT,  
CONTRARY TO MR. BOTHA'S FEARS, THIS WOULD NOT MEAN HIS  
NEGOTIATING DIRECTLY WITH SWAPO. TO ARRANGE FOR THE  
FOREIGN MINISTERS OF THE UNITED STATES, BRITAIN,  
FRANCE, WEST GERMANY, CANADA AND SOUTH AFRICA, THE  
UN SECRETARY-GENERAL( 33. KURT WALDHEIM, AND THE  
SWAPO LEADER, MR. SAM NUJOMA, ALL TO BE IN NEW  
YORK AT THE SAME TIME FOR ABOUT THREE DAYS IS A  
DIFFICULT UNDERTAKING. THE WEST FEARS THIS MOVE COULD  
BE TORPEDOED BY THE ANNOUNCEMENT BEFORE THEN BY  
SOUTH AFRICA OF AN ELECTION DATE FOR SWA/NAMIBIA. END QUOTE.  
BOWDLER UNQUOTE CHRISTOPHER

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## Message Attributes

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